Text Books.

566. *MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether all text books prescribed for High Schools and the Middle Schools for the current academic year are available for sale at present in Travancore?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: Yes.

Delay in the supply of text-books.

567. *MR. R. MADHAVAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the fact that even after the lapse of two months after the re-opening of the schools the students have not yet been able to get their prescribed text books?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: No.

Libraries and Reading Rooms.

568. *MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of libraries and reading rooms in the State; and

(*b*) the number of libraries and reading rooms which receive grants from the Government?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: (*a*) 103.

(*b*) 65.

Educational cess.

569. *MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have formulated any scheme for introducing educational cess in the State; and

(*b*) if so what that scheme is?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: Not yet.

Reconstruction Officer.

570. *MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the nature of the work they have entrusted to the Post War Reconstruction Officer;

(*b*) whether he has any technical qualifications; and

(*c*) whether he has been given a Financial Assistant?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) The Reconstruction Officer has been advising Government on all Post-war Reconstruction Schemes and on other important matters referred to him by Government from time to time. He has represented this Government at meetings of the General Policy Committee of the Government of India and at various conferences convened by the Government of India to consider matters of common concern in regard to Post-War Development Schemes, Industrial Taxation and Civil Aviation. He has also represented the State at Conferences held by the Government of India to review Hoarding and Profiteering Orders and certain other control

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[Mr. C. Kumara Das.]

measures. He has been representing this Government in the negotiations with the Government of India in regard to the regulation and control of export of coir and other products and has also been advising Government on matters relating to re-settlement of demobilised personnel.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Reconstruction Officer has full opportunities to consult the Heads of Technical Departments of Government and also the Financial Secretary. These questions do not therefore arise.

Activities of certain departments.

571. *MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI : Will the Government be pleased to state whether any scheme has been formulated for co-ordinating the activities of Co-operative, Agricultural, Fisheries, Industrial and Irrigation and the Public Works Departments?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : There is no scheme as such, but matters of common interest are decided only after mutual consultation between or reference to the departments concerned.

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